(b) So far no proposal has been received from the Andhra Pradesh Government under this Scheme.

(c) The State farms assisted in the scheme will maintain only low input technology birds and will supply their chicks with the target group mostly limited to only marginal farmers, landless labourers, women in groups and other socially backward sector of the society in the villages. There is also provision in the scheme to provide training to the farmers.

Agriculture Insurance Corporation

3129. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agriculture Insurance Corporation of India is set to become a reality by January, 2003;

(b) whether earlier schemes like Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme and National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) were full of shortcomings and needed to be reviewed; and

(c) if so, what are the details of this case, the advantages and the need for the new schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir. Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. is being promoted by General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC); National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, four Public Sector General Insurance companies and is expected to become operational from Janury, 2003.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. some shortcomings such as inadequate coverage of farmers, scrops, risk commitment, large unit area of insurance etc. were noticed in erstwhile Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS). To overcome these shortcomings and on the demands of the States/ Union Territories, the Government of India introduced National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) from Rabi 1999-2000 season.

During the course of implementation of NAIS for 3 years, some suggestions like limiting the sum insured upto Rs. 50,000/-, retaining 50% premia subsidy to small and marginal farmers, rationalization of premia structure, coverage of perennial crops etc. were received from

the implementing States/UTs. In view of the suggestions given by the States and provision in the scheme for its review, a process for the review of NAIS has been initiated. A proposal for the review of NAIS has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Finance, for the consideration of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC).

The proposed modified scheme would cover more crops (perennial crops), provide for smaller unit area of insurance, small and marginal farmers will continue to avail 50% premia-subsidy etc. At the same time, financial liability of the Government may be reduced because of further rationalization of premium structure and limiting the sum insured up to Rs. 50,000/-.

Seed Crop Insurance Scheme

3130. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 266, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th December, 2001 and to state the details of sum assured for each crop and the number of farmers covered under the pilot scheme on Seed Crop Insurance, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): The State-wise details of sum insured for each crop and number of farmers covered thereunder, is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

State-wise/crop-wise number of farmers covered and details of sum insured under Pilot Scheme on Seed Crop Insurance.

RABI 1999-2000

State	Crop	Number of Farmers	Sum insured (Rs.)
Haryana	Gram	13	1171440
Karnataka	Sun-flower	2	96000
Orissa	Paddy	27+2 Farm	671364
Rajasthan	Gram	Farm only	4449875
Uttar Pradesh	Wheat	242	7300000
TOTAL:		274+Govt. Farms	13688679